

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A document scanning apparatus for scanning a document, generating image data, and storing this image data in specified storage means, comprising:

5 first scanning means for sequentially transporting documents mounted in a specified document tray to a specified scan position and scanning said document at said scan position;

10 second scanning means for scanning a document placed on a specified document glass plane without transporting this document;

continued specification acceptance means for accepting a specification for one of document scan continuation and completion after one of scan  
15 operations for all documents mounted in said document tray through said first scanning means and for said document placed on said document glass plane through said second scanning means;

20 scan method selection means for responding to an acceptance of continued document scan specification by this continued specification acceptance means, selecting one of said first scanning means and said second scanning means according to a specified specification, and allowing selected scanning means to  
25 start scanning documents; and

storage control means for storing generated image data as for a series of documents in said storage

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means, wherein a scan operation by said first scanning means and said second scanning means generates image data until said continued specification acceptance means accepts a specification to complete scanning documents.

2. The document scanning apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said continued specification acceptance means accepts a specification whether to continue scanning documents based on a specified suspension instruction also in response to a suspended scan operation performed by one of said first scanning means and said second scanning means.

3. The document scanning apparatus according to claim 1, wherein there is provided mode changeover means which validates operations of said continued specification acceptance means, said scan method selection means, and said storage control means only when a specified special mode is enabled for said first scanning means and said second scanning means for scanning a series of documents.

4. The document scanning apparatus according to claim 1, wherein there are provided conditional specification acceptance means which accepts a specification of a specified scan condition when said continued specification acceptance means awaits a specification whether to continue scanning documents; and

condition setup means which allows one of said  
first scanning means and said second scanning means  
to perform scanning under a scan condition updated  
by a specification most recently accepted by said  
5 conditional specification acceptance means when one of  
said first scanning means and said second scanning  
means performs document scanning in response to  
acceptance of a specification to continue scanning  
documents by said continued specification acceptance  
10 means.

5. A document scanning apparatus for scanning  
a document, generating image data, and storing this  
image data in specified storage means, comprising:

scanning means for scanning said document;

15 continued specification acceptance means for  
accepting a specification for one of document scan  
continuation and completion after termination of  
scanning of said document by this scanning means;

conditional specification acceptance means which  
20 accepts a specification of a specified scan condition  
when this continued specification acceptance means  
awaits a specification whether to continue scanning  
documents;

continued scan control means which allows said  
25 scanning means to start scanning documents under a scan  
condition updated by a specification most recently  
accepted by said conditional specification acceptance

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means in response to acceptance of a specification to continue scanning documents by said continued specification acceptance means; and

storage control means for storing generated image data as for a series of documents in said storage means, wherein a scan operation by said scanning means generates image data until said continued specification acceptance means accepts a specification to complete scanning documents.

6. The document scanning apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said continued specification acceptance means accepts a specification whether to continue scanning documents based on a specified suspension instruction also in response to a suspended scan operation performed by said scanning means.

7. The document scanning apparatus according to claim 5, wherein there is provided mode changeover means which validates operations of said continued specification acceptance means, conditional specification acceptance means, continued scan control means, and said storage control means only when a specified special mode is enabled for said scanning means for scanning a series of documents.

8. A document scanning method of scanning a document, generating image data, and storing this image data in specified storage means by selectively using first scanning means for sequentially transporting

documents mounted in a specified document tray to  
a specified scan position and scanning said document  
at said scan position and second scanning means for  
scanning a document placed on a specified document  
5 glass plane without transporting this document,  
comprising the steps of:

accepting a specification for one of document  
scan continuation and completion after one of scan  
operations for all documents mounted in said document  
10 tray through said first scanning means and for said  
document placed on said document glass plane through  
said second scanning means;

responding to an acceptance of said continued  
document scan specification, selecting one of  
15 said first scanning means and said second scanning  
means according to a specified specification, and  
allowing selected scanning means to start scanning  
documents; and

storing generated image data as for a series of  
20 documents in said storage means, wherein a scan  
operation by said first scanning means and said second  
scanning means generates image data until acceptance of  
said specification to complete scanning documents.

9. A document scanning method for scanning  
25 a document, generating image data, and storing this  
image data in specified storage means by using  
specified scanning means, comprising the steps of:

accepting a specification of a specified scan condition while awaiting said specification whether to continue scanning documents;

storing generated image data as for a series of documents in said storage means, wherein a scan operation by said first scanning means and said second scanning means generates image data until acceptance of said specification to complete scanning documents.